

Society revel in carnival frolics. Congressmen and lobbyists toll like beavers in grabbing land and gobbling up railways and telegraphs, and in incessantly drawing up bills and resolutions with a velocity which would make one think that the fate of the American people depended upon whether Pomeroy swallowed up another million of acres or Cushing or Butler drove a lucrative bargain. But these faithful servants of the public have, too, their social ambitions. Their wives and daughters run the gauntlet of receptions, call in squads on the *opéra bouffe* fashionable officials, and never weary of boasting of their acquaintance with the Minister from the Barbary States, and look forward with delight to the arrival of the Envoy from Japan. In mentioning these Washington receptions it is, perhaps, kind and well to speak only of the picturesque and gorgeousness of titles and toilets, without entering into invidious particulars. But there is in reality an undercurrent of reticence, a smell of Post Office and stationery contracts, a fragrance of land grabbing and grasping, which, mingled with the mingling tones of the remnants of the old regime and the shoddies and foreign legations, supply the richest elements of *opéra bouffe*.

New York does not claim to be perfection, but certainly our best people do not, as is the case in Washington, fill the land with ostentatious clamor about every small reception, nor roll in the dust when they happen to come into the presence of some foreign or domestic magnate or fossil dowager of the Southern States. But while Washington, as the national capital, should set the tone to the country, it is painfully deficient in that intellectual and refined distinction which gives grace to society here. And not only is that enervating with which all societies are more or less afflicted enervated there in all the pomp of a systematic adulation, but even the highest national objects seem to dwarf before the childish importance given to a series of balls, dinners and receptions. Washington presents really at the present moment a grotesque mixture of the bad features of the old as of the new regime, and instead of gravitating toward the simplicity and integrity of its early days, which would give it dignity and grandeur, it approaches the mongrel reign of a Soudan and a species of Asiatic chaos in which are combined a subservience to rank and power on the one hand and a lack of culture and integrity on the other.

Our City Markets.

There is a good deal of excitement among market men, property owners and producers of market material about the order to sell the market property owned by the city. Several meetings have been held in the up-town wards, the residents of which propose to erect markets at various suitable points. The prospect of our public markets being destroyed has stirred up our Long Island farmers. They held a very important meeting at Jamaica the other day, and they are going to hold another. Men of mark and men of money are represented at these gatherings. Their views will naturally have some weight in deciding the question where they are to carry their products in future, should Washington Market be demolished, for instance. There is, therefore, a good deal of embarrassment in this business. The impression seems to be that we shall have no public markets at all. Cannot the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund make a provision in the sale that certain portions of the lands shall be devoted to public markets? That would cover points which seem to be the source of trouble and discontent.

We want to see all the old, dilapidated, disgraceful markets swept away, and something decent—something worthy of this great metropolis—erected in their place. If this movement of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund should be carried through to the extent of giving us respectable markets, either erected by private enterprise or by the city government, the whole community will have reason to rejoice. In all the world, including our own portion of it, there is nothing in the shape of public markets in any great city, or even in cities or towns of smaller pretensions, that cannot put to shame the markets of New York. Now, however, there seems to be a revolution coming in our market system, and apparently a very wholesome one. By throwing open to competition the right to establish markets in different parts of the city the public will enjoy conveniences not known under the present system, while Washington Market, located down town, is the great mart where the finest meats from our abattoirs, the choicest game from the West and the freshest vegetables from the Long Island farms are to be procured.

The market question has thus been sprung upon us, awakening some new ideas upon a very old subject—the maintenance of the inner gown and his gastronomic comforts.

THE TROTTER CONGRESS.—A congress of delegates from the trotting associations of the country convened at Buffalo on Wednesday last, and we give this morning the result of their deliberations in a new code of laws for observance during the coming year and for all time should they be found to meet the requirements of this progressive age. This code is a great improvement on the one in vogue last year. We hope the various associations in the United States and Canada will be successful in carrying out to the letter all the rules and regulations made by the convention, and that hereafter the clamor of the past about frauds on the trotting turf will no longer be heard.

Mrs. WOODHULL has already "gone for" Bingham, in a reply, which we publish elsewhere, to his woman suffrage report, and which certainly ought to crush that gentleman, if long sentences and massive adjectives can do it. We don't think that the eloquent peroration, however, will affect him at all. If it were a tearful appeal or a heartrending wall from the crushed sex we might have some hope; but the truth is, Bingham is too thick-skinned to be influenced by long words or cumbersome sentences or imposing adjectives. Mrs. Woodhull must first try the effect of tears. The fruitful river of the eye is her strongest hand in this game, and we would advise her, when she appears on the floor of the House next Monday to advocate her cause, as we hope she will be allowed to do, that she appear like Niobe, and if the hard-hearted monsters are still obstinate, then let her "bring on her boys."

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

Gambetta's Instructions to the Prefects of the Departments.

COUNT BISMARCK'S PROTEST.

The Protest Denounced as an Insolent Pretension of the Prussian Minister.

PROSECUTE THE WAR TO DEATH.

Powers of the Bordeaux Delegation Withdrawn by the Paris Government.

CANDIDATES FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

BORDEAUX, Feb. 4, 1871.

I am enabled to state to the NEW YORK HERALD that instructions were issued yesterday by M. Gambetta to the Prefects of Departments requesting a strict execution of the electoral qualification decree.

BISMARCK'S PROTEST AGAINST THE ELECTORAL DISQUALIFICATION DECREE.

An official note from Count von Bismarck, dated Versailles, February 3, points M. Gambetta to the decree issued by him declaring the ineligibility to the Assembly of the functionaries under the empire as a corroboration of the fears expressed by M. Favre that the elections will not be free; in consequence of which, continues the Count, "I proposed the convocation of the Corps Legislatif, which was refused by M. Favre." The note concludes with a protest from Bismarck against the decree, and the statement that the Germans will only recognize an Assembly composed of freely elected deputies.

GAMBETTA DENOUNCES BISMARCK'S PROTEST AS AN INSOLENT PRETENSION.

Count Bismarck having protested against the electoral disqualification decree of the Bordeaux government M. Gambetta has made a reply, in which he warmly defends that document, and says:—"It frustrates the plans of Bismarck and his accomplices, the fallen dynasty, and the insolent pretension of the Prussian Minister to interfere with the constitution of a French Assembly." The best justification of the Bordeaux government is the public meeting of last night, which resolved on a mass demonstration to-morrow to formally request M. Gambetta to accept the presidency of a committee of public safety, and prosecute the war to the death.

BORDEAUX DELEGATION DEPRIVED OF ITS POWERS.

The *Gauche*, of Bordeaux, to-day says the Paris government has withdrawn the powers of the Bordeaux delegation.

CANDIDATES FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

A preliminary electoral meeting, which had been held in Paris, decided in favor of the following candidates for the National Assembly:—Victor Hugo, Garibaldi, Quinet, Gambetta, Saisset and Dorian.

The members of the Paris Bourse have published a list of ninety military, naval, literary and legal celebrities to be submitted to the great electoral meeting. The names were quoted at 90¢ 25c.

THE OCEAN PRINCES NOT CANDIDATES.

It is now said the Ocean Princes will not accept of candidatures for the French National Assembly.

GARIBOLDI A CANDIDATE.

Garibaldi has accepted the candidacy for the representation of Nice in the National Assembly.

REPUBLICAN DELEGATES ARRIVING.

Delegates from the republican committees throughout France are arriving at Bordeaux.

PARIS.

ALL QUIET IN THE CITY.

Twenty-Three Thousand Persons Have Applied to Leave the Capital.

EXTENT OF THE GERMAN CAPTURES.

Further Arrangements Making to Supply Paris With Food.

Attempted Assassination of General Trochu.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Feb. 4, 1871.

I am enabled to inform the NEW YORK HERALD that travellers who left Paris on Wednesday arrived at Brussels yesterday. They report

THE CITY QUIET.

There was some slight disorder upon the receipt of the news of the signing of the armistice, but the rioters were easily appeased. There was great difficulty in procuring food, and 25,000 persons have already asked for permission to leave the city.

MEASURES FOR THE RELIEF OF PARIS.

The Foreign Office announces that an offer has been made to Count Bismarck and M. Favre to place English resources at their disposal for the supply of Paris with food, the arrangements to be under the superintendence of French and German agents.

PRISONERS AND WAR MATERIAL CAPTURED IN PARIS.

It is now known that about 150,000 prisoners were taken in Paris, with 1,500 cannon and 400 field pieces and mitrailleurs. The gunboats in the Seine and the rolling stock of the railways were also appropriated by the Germans.

TROCHU'S LIFE ATTEMPTED.

It was reported in Brussels yesterday that an attempt had been made at Paris to assassinate General Trochu. The General's orderly officer was killed, but he himself was not injured.

BOURBAKI.

Contradictory Statements Relative to the Condition of the Injured General.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Feb. 4, 1871.

About a week ago the readers of the NEW YORK HERALD were apprised of the attempted suicide of General Bourbaki. His condition since then has been variously stated. From the following telegrams the readers may judge for themselves as to whether the General is alive or dead.

REPORTED DEATH OF GENERAL BOURBAKI.

A despatch from Brussels, dated February 3, says that the *Gauche* has a telegram announcing that General Bourbaki has died from the wounds inflicted by himself while in a state of temporary insanity.

NO CONFIRMATION OF BOURBAKI'S DEATH.

There is no confirmation as yet of the rumor emanating from the *Gauche* of the death of General Bourbaki.

GENERAL NEWS.

THE CONDITIONS OF PEACE.

Marshal MacMahon's Denial of the Use of Explosive Bullets by the French.

GERMAN MARCH ON HAVRE.

The Bridges on the Paris and Strasbourg Railroad Repaired.

LYONS STILL FOR WAR.

Arrival of the Eighteenth French Army Corps at Lyons.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Feb. 4, 1871.

It has been ascertained that the *Times*' statement of

THE CONDITIONS OF PEACE.

as regards the cession of Lorraine and Pondicherry, and the transfer of twenty ships of war to Germany, is incorrect. The truth is that the Germans are, under the proposed terms, to keep Alsace and the fortress of Metz. The indemnity demanded of M. Thiers in November was four milliards of francs, a figure which it is possible has been doubled since that date.

MARSHAL MACMAHON'S DENIAL OF THE USE OF EXPLOSIVE BULLETS.

Marshal MacMahon in a published letter denies the truth of the Prussian assertions that the French at the battle of Worth used explosive bullets and that the French wounded were allowed to cross Belgian territory.

THE PRUSSIAN MARCHING ON HAVRE.

It is said that a force of 5,000 Prussians is at Yvetot, marching on Havre. They report that other corps are following them.

PARIS AND STRASBOURG RAILROAD BRIDGES REPAIRED.

SARREBOURG, France, Feb. 3, 1871.

The bridges on the Paris and Strasbourg Railroad have been restored, and all trains are now running between Epernay and Nancy.

The Escaped French Army Corps at Lyons—The City Anxious to Continue the War.

BORDEAUX, Feb. 4, 1871.

General Bellot, commander of the Eighteenth French corps, arrived at Lyons. He reports that the retreat of the Army of the East was caused by the want of provisions and munitions, the effect of the armistice.

LYONS STILL FOR WAR.

There have been demonstrations of an extremely warlike character on the part of the people of Lyons, thousands of whom have assembled in public meetings and paraded the streets with shouts of "Vive la guerre!" and "Vive la commune."

EUGENIE.

THE EMPRESS STILL AT CHISELHURST.

LONDON, Feb. 4, 1871.

The following despatch will point out to the readers of the HERALD the unreliability of the many flying rumors regarding the movements of Eugenie:

THE EMPRESS STILL AT CHISELHURST.

The report that the ex-Empress Eugenie has left her residence at Chiselhurst for the Continent proves to be without foundation in fact; as does also

ANOTHER REPORT.

that M. Henry Count, formerly the private secretary to the Emperor Napoleon, has arrived in England on a special mission.

THE EUROPEAN CONGRESS.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

In Session After Adjournment—France Still Absent—Anxious Debate, but No Positive Result.

LONDON, Feb. 4, 1871.

The members accredited by the different governments signatory to the Treaty of Paris in 1856, on the Black Sea navigation question, assembled yesterday after the adjournment, which took place on Tuesday, January 31.

All the powers were represented in the assembly, with the exception of France.

The deliberations were prolonged, lasting several hours, but no practical results are known to have been reached. The next session will be held on Tuesday, the 7th instant.

THE QUESTION OF THE DANUBE.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Russian Report of the Action of the London Conference—The European Commission in Force and the Great Powers in Union.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 4, 1871.

It is stated upon reliable authority that the London Conference, having considered the treaty in relation to the navigation of the Danube apart from the Black Sea question, excludes it from its future deliberations on the Danubian question.

The European Commission having charge of the navigation of that river therefore remains in force. To this course England, Germany and Russia raise no objection, and the Porte has given its consent.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Provincial Independence in Remonstrance to the Sultan.

LONDON, Feb. 4, 1871.

Telegrams from St. Petersburg, dated in the Russian capital this morning, have been received in this city.

The despatches announce the prevalence of a report to the effect that the government of Serbia has submitted a proposition to the Porte for a peaceable discussion by the two governments of the subject of the annexation of Bosnia and the Herzegovina to Serbia.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Extra Parliamentary Exposition in England—Native Friends and Allies Poles in America.

LONDON, Feb. 3, 1871.

At a meeting of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce to-day remarks were made by Messrs. Samuel Robert Groves and William Rathbone, members of Parliament from Liverpool, the former conservative and the latter liberal in politics, in which the hope was expressed "that the new American Minister, Mr. Schenck, would be enabled to settle the question of the Alabama claims in a manner satisfactory to the United States and Great Britain."

Both gentlemen agreed in the expression of the conviction that "all native born Americans cherish an affection for England, and that it was the duty of the United States to give them the right to great Britain."

FIRE AT WARELEY, L. I.

On Thursday night the house, with its contents belonging to S. R. Crandall, of Wareley, L. I., was destroyed by fire. Loss, \$4,000; insured for \$2,500 in a bankrupt company. The family had been absent from the house for several days, and the fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

HAYTI.

Herald Special Report from Port-au-Prince.

Disasters to British Vessels in the Harbor.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

KINGSTON, J.A., Feb. 4, 1871.

I have received from the HERALD special correspondent at Port-au-Prince a message, dated the 1st inst., announcing the following marine disasters:—

The British bark *Cleopatra*, which has been for some time past loading logwood in the harbor of St. Mark, suddenly sprung a leak that could not be got under control, and finding the vessel rapidly filling she was towed ashore. She was condemned and was to be sold at auction on the 2d inst.

The British bark *Marmion*, from Liverpool, with 400 tons of slates, which were badly stored away between fore and main masts, has been so severely strained that the vessel is almost broken in two.

The Steamer Hornet at Port-au-Prince—Her Crew Deserting Her—The Country Quiet—Commercial Distresses.

HAVANA, Feb. 4, 1871.

Havrian advices of the lot have been received.

A Spanish war steamer was watching closely the Cuban steamer *Hornet*, which was at Port-au-Prince flying American colors day and night. The crew of the *Hornet* were making preparations to embark for the United States, their passages having been taken.

The country was quiet and the people satisfied with the condition of affairs.

Worms had destroyed the cotton plant in the Artibonite district.

Commerce was suffering, the premium on gold was increasing and the deliveries of produce were lighter than ever before known.

THE CROWN OF GERMANY.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Imperial Thanks to the Prussian Legislature—Message of the Emperor William—The War May Be Continued.

BERLIN, Feb. 4, 1871.

I am enabled to report by cable telegram, to the HERALD the very interesting fact that the President of the lower house of the Prussian Diet read to that body yesterday a reply from the Emperor William to the loyal and congratulatory address presented to him upon the occasion of his assumption of the imperial crown of Germany.

The Emperor expresses his thanks to the Diet for the sentiments declared in their address, and also a fervent hope for the peace and prosperity of the new empire. Though there is, now, he says, "some prospect that the severe struggle into which Germany was forced will soon be finished, it can as yet only be considered that there is ground for hope of the re-establishment of peace. It is not impossible that the war will continue, and great sacrifices still be necessary on the part of the German people."

The Cotton Supply.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 4, 1871.

There has arrived the steamship *Erlin* from New York, January 18, with 2,594 bales of cotton.

UNITED ITALY.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

No Mission to Versailles—Legislation on the Papal Guarantees Bill.

FLORENCE, Feb. 4, 1871.

I am enabled to report to the HERALD by cable to-day that the efforts of the neutral powers to intervene in the peace negotiations at Versailles encounter great difficulties. There is no truth in the report that Chevalier Nigra goes to Versailles for the purpose of mediating between Bismarck and Favre. The first clause of the Papal guarantees bill has been carried through the Chamber of Deputies.

GENERAL PLEASANTON

Complimentary Banquet at Delmonico's.

Commercial and Professional Leaders Honoring the Revenue Commissioner—Speeches of General Pleasanton, Calvin T. Hulburd, Judge Pierrepont and Others.

The newly-appointed Internal Revenue Commissioner, General Alfred Pleasanton, arrived in this city a few days since, and he has been the recipient of two splendid testimonials of the appreciation in which he is held by the leading bankers and capitalists of this city. On Friday evening Mr. Peter Lorillard gave, at his residence, a princely reception to General Pleasanton. The *City of New York* were there, and manifested their approval of the action of General Grant in appointing General Pleasanton Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

A number of the most eminent capitalists, merchants, bankers and professional men tendered to General Pleasanton a complimentary banquet, which came off last evening at Delmonico's.

The object of the demonstration was to show to Congress the opinion in which the income tax is held in this city. General Pleasanton, being one of the first public officers to advocate its abolition, he is made the object of special regard. Many of those present were among the largest tax payers in the country, and though they were all in favor of supporting the government by a judicious course of taxation, they were opposed to the income tax as inequitable and unjust.

Mr. William E. Dodge presided. Among those present were Messrs. Sherman, Hiram Barney, Paul W. Spofford, Peter Cooper, William E. Dodge, Jr., Jonathan Sturges, Joseph E. Daly, Charles L. Lamb, Sherman, Nathaniel S. Davis, G. B. Barnard, John Jacob Astor, John Faucher, John E. Hamilton, Charles Lunt, Chauncey M. Depew, Edward S. Jaffray, E. W. Stoughton, Wm. M. Vermilye, Horace Greeley, Peter Lorillard, Judge Curtis, Dr. Isaac Taylor, Professor Barnard, Charles H. Marshall, James M. Brown, Edwards Pierrepont and John D. Jones.

When the dinner was over, Horace Greeley, being called upon, made a few remarks, and, in conclusion, desired the company to join him in a toast, and gave the health of their honored guest, General Pleasanton.

General Pleasanton replied that he felt highly honored at being the recipient of so much kindness. He felt distressed, when his name was first mentioned in connection with the subject of the income tax, that he should be called upon to make a public show of being a tax payer. But he found that the same rules which govern the soldier also govern the business man. The same discipline was necessary, and those who observed the fact the most were the most successful. By applying to government officers the measures practiced by business men he would endeavor to gain the confidence of the people.

Mr. Calvin T. Hulburd was next called upon. He said he came to this city to construct a new post office and court house, and it was his intention that they should be finished during the present session of Congress. He should give the appropriations faster and could make a better annual show by being economical. If Congress allowed he would erect a building that would be a credit not only to the city but to the country.

Judge Pierrepont questioned the honesty of the Congress that continued the income tax beyond the time specified in the act. He complimented General Pleasanton on his boldness in opposing the tax, in the face of the fact that the Secretary of the Treasury was in favor of it.

Similar remarks characterizing the tax as inequitable and unjust were made by Chauncey M. Depew, President Barnard (Columbia College), William E. Dodge, John D. Jones and others. The latter urged upon Congress the necessity of its immediate repeal.

A BOSTON THEATRE BURNED.

Total Destruction by Fire of the Adelphi Theatre and Parks' Hotel.

Several Lives Supposed to be Lost—The Career of the Adelphi—A Fish Trap, a Varieties and a Legitimate Temple of Thespia.

BOSTON, Feb. 4, 1871.

One of the most disastrous conflagrations in Boston for a long time took place about midnight to-night. It originated in the Adelphi theatre, and then communicated to Parks' Hotel, owned by Billy Parks, which is immediately adjoining. The theatre was burned from pit to dome, together with all its contents, and a greater portion of the hotel was ruined with other fire or water. The loss on the theatrical edifice itself was about \$15,000, and the wardrobe and scenery were worth nearly as much more. The hotel, which was owned and carried on by William D. Parks, was worth, together with the furniture, about \$50,000 or more, and between fire and water it is not worth one quarter of that now.

When the flames burst out there was a simultaneous rush of lodgers from the hotel and a perfect avalanche of baggage and furniture from the windows. The performance in the theatre had closed an hour and an half before, but there were fears that some of the stage men or occupants were caught in the burning element. Whether those fears are to be realized or not it is impossible to determine now, but at this late hour there are fears that there has been a loss of life scarcely less horrible than that at the burning of the Spotswood Hotel in Richmond. The human fatality, if there has been any, is in the theatre; for it is known that all the occupants of the hotel were warned of their danger in time.

The Adelphi was a young theatre, but a very popular one in Boston. It was first a place of amusement under the name of Andrew's Hall, and, on account of its spacious interior and central location, was very popular as a profitable haven for popular itinerant showmen. Subsequent to this P. T. Barnum got possession of the property, and with an overgrown salt water fish, run the place as a mammoth white pen. This enterprise did not pay on account of the death of the whale, and when Barnum left it another showman, named Wentworth, revived the establishment and run it for a year or two. After he had run it out John Stebbins, the proprietor of the Howard Athenaeum, leased the place, and, under his general direction, it became a place of amusement for the last manager, and the one that has of late and who was in the future to have the direction, is John L. Hall. But the old and time honored temple of amusement is a matter of history now. There have been many good entertainments there and great many poor ones.

As for the hotel there is not much to be said about it, except that it was a very good one, and still not a very popular one.

The turning up of the ruins at daybreak will relieve the anxiety of many who fear that their friends are among the ruins.

JAMAICA.

The West India Cable Fleet.

KINGSTON, Feb. 4, 1871.

The cable fleet, with Sir Charles Bright on board, left here on Monday, and will remain at sea until the lost Porto Rico cable is recovered.

A SOUTHERN RAILROAD HORROR.

Fearful Disaster on the Jackson Railroad—The Particulars Supplied by the Railroad Managers.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 4, 1871.

Another terrible accident is reported on the Jackson Railroad, two sleeping cars of the Northern bound train having been thrown from the track and badly smashed. A large number of passengers are reported to have been injured, many of them severely.

The railroad authorities seem to have smothered effectually the particulars of this calamity.

ACCIDENT ON THE HUDSON.

Breaking Up of the Ice at Croger's—Four Men Drowned.

ALBANY, Feb. 4, 1871.

A special despatch to the *Sunday Morning Press* from Peekskill says that the ice in the Hudson at Croger's moved this afternoon, with about 150 fishermen upon it. At the same time a tremendous gain of wind prevailed. The fishermen, in great consternation, rushed for the shore, and at last accounts four of them were known to have perished.

WATCHING CYRILLE DION.

A handsome gold watch and chain were presented to Cyrille Dion last evening at Cris. O'Connor's Billiard Hall